

Application No. 10/028,415

Amendment and Reply to Office Action mailed November 10, 2005

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Following the amendments, claims 6, 9, 14, 24, 25 and 28-38 are under consideration, with claims 6, 14, 28 and 30 being in independent form.

Previously withdrawn claims 4, 5 12 and 13 have been cancelled from the application. Claims 35-38 have been added. Claims 35 and 36 are dependent upon claim 6, and are drawn to method comprising contacting a population of cells with at least two or at least five anti-sense oligonucleotides. Similarly, claims 37 and 38 are dependent upon claim 14, and are drawn to method comprising contacting a population of cells with at least two or at least five anti-sense oligonucleotides. Support for newly added claims 35-38 may be found, for example, in Example 2 (page 26, line 29 - page 29, line 22) and Example 3 (page 30, lines 1-14) of the specification as originally filed.

It is urged that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed and that none of the above amendments constitute new matter or raise new issues for consideration.

In response to the Restriction Requirement for claims 33 and 34, applicants hereby elect the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20 with traverse.


Applicants note that the ten sequences recited in claims 33 and 34 are all anti-sense oligonucleotide sequences directed against the same molecule, and that claims 33 and 34 are dependent claims which further limit claims 6 and 14, which are both drawn to methods including reducing the amount of that molecule in a population of cells. It is thus submitted that the recited sequences clearly share a common utility, and further that searching and examining claims 33 and 34 in their entirety would not constitute an undue burden.

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Early reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further concerns regarding this application, she is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at 206.382.1191.

Respectfully submitted,


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